

Sandra L. Wagner
Director -
Federal Regulatory

SBC Communications Inc.
1401 I Street, N.W.
Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20005
Phone 202 326-8860



May 28, 1996

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N. W., Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Third Informational Amendment to Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's Comparably Efficient Interconnection Plan for the Provision of Payment Processing Services (CC Docket Nos. 85-229, 90-623, and 95-20)

Dear Mr. Caton:

Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT) hereby amends its Comparably Efficient Interconnection (CEI) Plan for its Payment Processing Service (PPS) that was subsequently approved by the Bureau's October 31, 1995, Order, DA 95-2264. Two Informational Amendments have since been filed and approved.¹

The purpose of this third Amendment is to inform the Bureau of a minor change in the way that SWBT offers PPS. As described in the CEI Plan, SWBT's PPS offering provides for the electronic collection of other companies' (e.g., electric utilities) customer bill payments by SWBT payment agents. Currently the Payment Agency Management System (PAMS) Concentrator initiates a call to each personal computer residing at the payment agents' location and informs them that the processor is ready to receive the other companies' bill payment file. This call is currently provided by the Utility's (SWBT's PPS Customer) Calling Card. Under this minor amendment, instead of using the Utility's calling card for the call from the PAMS Concentrator to each agent laptop to notify the agent to send payment

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See First Informational Amendment to Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's CEI Plan for Payment Processing Service (PPS) filed August 3, 1995, and Second Informational Amendment filed April 3, 1996. (CC Docket Nos. 85-229, 90-623 and 95-20)

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data, SWBT will use "1 + Dialing" over public network lines installed at the request of and billed to the Utility. The Utility will also choose the interexchange carrier and be billed for the long distance usage associated with the calls made by the PAMS Concentrator. This change is being sought due to the request of the customer so that the customer can save calling card surcharges. See the attached diagram.

This minor amendment to SWBT's approved PPS CEI Plan presents no concerns regarding the Commission's nondiscrimination and pro-competitive Computer III goals. Therefore, unless SWBT is informed otherwise, in accordance with the Commission's prior practice on such matters, we will assume that this amendment is deemed approved 14 days from the date of this letter.²

Should you have any questions, please contact me on 326-8860.



Attachment

cc: Radhika Karmarker
Blaise Scinto
Carol Matthey

In the Bureau's January 11, 1995, Memorandum Opinion and Order granting the BOC's Joint Contingency Petition for Interim Waiver of the Computer II Rules (DA 95-36), the Bureau noted that minor amendments to CEI plans are generally deemed approved after 14 days of filing with the Bureau unless problems are identified by the staff.

SWBT's Payment Processing Service

